

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 8657

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR/MX

SUBJECT: MISSION MONTHLY NARCOTICS REVIEW FOR OCTOBER, 1973.

REF: MEXICO 8056; MEXICO 7444; MEXICO 8402;
MEXICO 8191; MEXICO 8263; MEXICO A-562

1. SUMMARY: THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT NARCOTICS-RELATED EVENTS IN OCTOBER WERE DEA ADMINISTRATOR BARTELS' SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE WITH THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND THE BORDER NARCOTICS CONFERENCE IN SAN ANTONIO. IN THE CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS PROGRAM, THE GOM MOVES AHEAD WITH ITS RADIO PURCHASE BUT CANNOT BEGIN TRAINING DETECTOR DOG HANDLERS UNTIL EARLY NEXT YEAR. THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY AGREEMENT HAS BEEN CONCLUDED. MORE PUBLIC STATEMENTS FROM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES POINT UP MEXICO'S DOMESTIC DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM. TOTAL GOM SEIZURES OF HARD NARCOTICS WERE DOWN SOMEWHAT IN OCTOBER, PROBABLY BECAUSE THE RECENT RASH OF KIDNAPPINGS HAS DISTRACTED THE MFJP FROM THEIR NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT ROLE. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY AND GOM ACTIVITIES:

(A) THE LONG-PLANNED BORDER NARCOTICS CONFERENCE, INVOLVING EMBASSY NARCOTICS CONTROL COMMITTEE, WASHINGTON AGENCIES CONCERNED IN THE DRUG EFFORT, AND US NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL FROM THE

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US BORDER AREA AND WITHIN MEXICO, WAS HELD OCTOBER 17-19 IN SAN

ANTONIO. THIS WAS REPORTED IN MEXICO 8056.

(B) RELATIVE TO THE CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS PROGRAM, THE GOM IS HOPING SOON TO COMPLETE THEIR END OF THE RADIO PURCHASE. THE DETECTOR DOG PROGRAM, HOWEVER, IS STALLED UNTIL AFTER JANUARY 1, 1974, DUE TO MEXICAN CUSTOMS' INABILITY TO LOCATE QUALIFIED PERSONNEL FOR TRAINING AT THIS TIME (MEXICO 7444).

(C) THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT FOR THE USG TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO GOM'S EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY HAS NOW BEEN EFFECTED. WE NOW AWAIT COMPLETION OF WASHINGTON ARRANGEMENTS TO ALLOW US PARTICIPATION TO BEGIN (MEXICO 8402).

(D) DEA ADMINISTRATOR JOHN BARTELS, CCINC COORDINATOR TOM PETERS AND OTHER DEA OFFICIALS FROM WASHINGTON CAME TO MEXICO CITY FOR FULL AND SUCCESSFUL TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL AND HIS STAFF, OCTOBER 29-30. THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE CONVERSATIONS, PLUS FIELD TRIP TO POPPY-GROWING AREA OF SINALOA OCTOBER 31, WERE REPORTED IN MEXICO 8191, 8263 AND A-562.

(E) ON OCTOBER 8, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF NUEVO LEON ASKED THE HELP OF ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES IN COMBATting "DRUG ADDICTION" AMONG STUDENTS, WHICH THE OFFICIAL CLAIMED HAD REACHED "AN ALARMING 28 PERCENT". IN SIMILARLY DISTURBING STATEMENTS, THE CHIEF OF THE MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SAID ON OCTOBER 15 THAT DRUG ADDICTION HAD IN JUST EIGHT YEARS BECOME A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR MEXICO. HE STATED THAT THE INCIDENCE OF DRUG ADDICTION IS INCREASING .7 PERCENT PER YEAR, AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN A "GREAT INCREASE IN DRUG USE BY PERSONS UNDER 20 YEARS OLD IN THE URBAN MIDDLE CLASS". COMMENT: MENTAL HEALTH CHIEF'S INFORMATION APPEARS AUTHORITATIVE AND SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. IT IS DOUBTFUL, HOWEVER, WHETHER THE "28 PERCENT" CITED BY THE NUEVO LEON OFFICIAL IS ACCURATE; WE DO NOT KNOW WHO THE REFERENCED "STUDENTS" ARE, OR WHAT CONSTITUTES THEIR "DRUG ADDICTION" (VERY OFTEN GOM OFFICIALS INCLUDE GLUE-SNIFFING AND BENZEDRINE-POPPING IN THIS CATEGORY). IN ANY CASE, IT IS A HEALTHY SIGN THAT RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS FEEL OBLIGED TO SPEAK OUT PUBLICLY CONCERNING THE PROBLEM OF DOMESTIC MEXICAN DRUG USE.

3. GOM ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES:

(A) WITH US AUTHORITIES

5 TRAFFICKERS KILLED IN GUERRERO SHOOT-OUT WITH MEXICAN AND US AGENTS; 11 TONS OF MARIJUANA SEIZED.
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2 KGS. OF COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.
300 GMS OF COCAINE FOUND IN A SADDLE AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

1.756 KGS. OF HEROIN SEIZED IN GUADALAJARA.
1.814 KGS. OF HEROIN SEIZED IN HERMOSILLO.
6 TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED FOR CONSPIRACY TO SELL HEROIN IN MONTERREY.

(B) INDEPENDENT MEXICAN OPERATIONS

2.75 KGS. COCAINE SEIZED IN THREE OPERATIONS AT
MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

160 GMS. HEROIN AND 27 GMS. COCAINE SEIZED ON TRAIN
NEAR HERMOSILLO.

200 GMS POPPY SEED TAKEN IN DURANGO.

2 KGS. HEROIN SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

570 GMS. HEROIN SEIZED ON BUS NEAR HERMOSILLO.

1.5 KGS. COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

165 GMS. COCAINE IN SPRAY CANS SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY
AIRPORT.

625 GMS. HEROIN SEIZED ON BUS NEAR HERMOSILLO.

1.4 KGS. COCAINE INTERCEPTED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

1.5 KGS. COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

1.75 KGS. OPIUM GUM SEIZED.

260 GMS. COCAINE, 60 GMS HEROIN AND 90 GMS. OPIUM GUM
TAKEN IN SAN LUIS RIO COLORADO, SONORA.

185 GMS. HEROIN SEIZED IN HERMOSILLO.

800 GMS. HEROIN AND 550 GMS. COCAINE SEIZED NEAR
SALTILLO, COAHUILA.

500 GMS. COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

(INCOMPLETE) TOTALS FOR MONTH:

8.5 KGS. HEROIN

11.5 KGS. COCAINE

1.75 KGS. OPIUM GUM

4. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT OCTOBER WAS A MONTH IN WHICH
THE MFJP WAS PREOCCUPIED WITH THEIR MANDATE CONCERNING POLITICAL
AND CRIMINAL KIDNAPPINGS. THIS PROBABLY EXPLAINS TO A LARGE
EXTENT WHY TOTAL SEIZURES WERE DOWN SOMEWHAT COMPARED TO THE
PRECEDING MONTH.

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Message Attributes

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